This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-13(cancelled).

14(currently amended). An assay method for the determination of calprotectin in a calprotectin-containing body fluid, said method comprising the steps of:

(a)   obtaining a calprotectin-containing liquid sample of, or derived from, said fluid;

(b)   contacting said sample of said body fluid with anti-calprotectin antibodies or antibody fragments, to bind said calprotectin, wherein said anti-calprotectin antibodies or antibody fragments are polyclonal and are immobilised by binding or coupling, either directly or indirectly, to nanoparticles to form antibody or antibody fragment coated nanoparticles; and

(c)   assessing the calprotectin content by turbidimetry, wherein the diameter of the antibody or antibody fragment coated nanoparticles is in the range 65-140 nm.

15(currently amended). The method of claim 14 wherein the diameter of the antibody or antibody fragment coated nanoparticles is in the range 75-120 nm.

16(previously presented). The method of claim 14 wherein said nanoparticles are substantially all of the same size.

17(previously presented). The method of claim 14 wherein an opacity enhancer is added in between steps (b) and (c).

18(previously presented). The method of claim 14 wherein said body fluid is

selected from blood, serum, plasma, urine, cerebrospinal fluid, oral fluid, synovial fluid or empyema fluid.

19(previously presented). The method of claim 14 performed as an automated assay.

20(currently amended). A kit for use in a diagnostic assay method according to claim 14 comprising:
one or more anti-calprotectin polyclonal antibody- or antibody fragment-coated nanoparticles having a diameter in the range 65-140 nm, wherein said assay method comprises;
(a)   obtaining a calprotectin-containing liquid sample of, or derived from, said fluid;
(b)   contacting said sample of said body fluid with said nanoparticle-bound anti-calprotectin antibody or antibody fragment, to bind said calprotectin; and
(c)   assessing the calprotectin content by turbidimetry.

21(previously presented). The kit of claim 20 further comprising a calprotectin solution of known concentration or a set of such solutions having a range of calprotectin concentrations.

22(previously presented). The kit of claim 20 further comprising a light transmitting vessel.

23(previously presented). The kit of claim 20 further comprising an opacification enhancer.

24(previously presented). The kit of claim 20 further comprising a detector.

25-27(cancelled).

28(previously presented). The method of claim 14 wherein said nanoparticles are monodisperse.